

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims, as follows:

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (new): A water supply for sanitary devices, which is equipped with a sensor device (30) and is activatable without contact, comprising:

- (a) a first capacitor (C1) having a first and second electrically conductive layer (32 and 41) and having a dielectric layer (43) positioned there-between;
- (b) a second capacitor (C2) having a first and second electrically conductive layer (32 and 31) and having a dielectric layer (33) positioned there-between;
- (c) an AC voltage generator (G), which is electrically connected to the second layer (41) of the first capacitor (C1), for coupling in an AC voltage signal ($s_1(t)$); and
- (d) a sensor amplifier (A) for amplifying an output signal ($s_2(t)$); and

wherein the first layer (32) is shared by the two capacitors (C1 and C2) and comprises a shared electrically conductive absorption area (32.2) or is electrically or capacitively connected to said shared absorption area (32.2), which, upon approach or contact of an object (38) or a liquid, forms an additional capacitor (C3) whose effective capacitance experiences a detectable change that may be tapped at the second layer (31) of the second capacitor (C2) in the form of a correspondingly changed output signal ($s_2(t)$).

Claim 22 (new): The water supply according to Claim 21, further comprising a water supply tap (301) or metallic parts of said water supply tap, forming as the absorption area (32.2) which is electrically or capacitively connected to the first layer (32).

Claim 23 (new): The water supply according to Claim 21, wherein the AC voltage signal ($s_1(t)$) of the generator (G) is also applied to a medium flowing out of a tap (301).

Claim 24 (new): The water supply according to claim 21, in combination with a sanitary device selected from the group consisting of: a toilet; a urinal; a washbasin; a sink; a shower; and a bathtub.

Claim 25 (new): The water supply according to Claim 21, wherein the first layer (32) comprises a shared electrically conductive absorption area (32.2) and is positioned as a film behind a wall of a sanitary device.

Claim 26 (new): The water supply according to Claim 25, wherein the wall of the sanitary device is a ceramic wall (401) of a urinal.

Claim 27 (new): An installation (500), equipped with a sensor device (30), for level measurement in or on liquid containers (501), comprising:

(a) a first capacitor (C1) having a first and second electrically conductive layer (32 and 41) and having a dielectric layer (43) positioned between them;

(b) a second capacitor (C2) having a first and second electrically conductive layer (32 and 31) and having a dielectric layer (33) positioned there-between;

(c) an AC voltage generator (G), which is electrically connected to the second layer (41) of the first capacitor (C1), for coupling in an AC voltage signal ($s_1(t)$); and

(d) a sensor amplifier (A) for amplifying an output signal ($s_2(t)$); and

wherein the first layer (32) is shared by the two capacitors (C1 and C2) and comprises a shared absorption area (503), an additional capacitor (C3) being formed upon filling of the container (501) with a medium (502), whose effective capacitance experiences a detectable change corresponding to the fill level, which may be tapped at the second layer (31) of the second capacitor (C2).

Claim 28 (new): An installation (500) for level measurement in liquid containers (501) according to Claim 27, wherein a vertical absorption strip (503) is attached to an outside of a non-conductive water container (501) of a sanitary device, the sanitary device comprising at least one of a toilet and a urinal.

Claim 29 (new): An installation (500) for level measurement in liquid containers (501) according to Claim 27 in combination with and for leak detection in a region of a container to be monitored.

Claim 30 (new): An installation according to Claim 29, including means for generating a light signal and wherein the medium stored in the container has the light generator signal applied thereto.

Claim 31 (new): A facility (50) for recognizing persons, having a sensor device (30), comprising:

(a) a first capacitor (C1) having a first and second electrically conductive layer (32 and 41) and having a dielectric layer (43) positioned there-between;

(b) a second capacitor (C2) having a first and second electrically conductive layer (32 and 31) and having a dielectric layer (33) positioned there-between;

(c) an AC voltage generator (G), which is electrically connected to the second layer (41) of the first capacitor (C1), for coupling in an AC voltage signal ($s_1(t)$); and

(d) a sensor amplifier (A) for amplifying an output signal ($s_2(t)$); and

wherein the first layer (32) is shared by the two capacitors (C1 and C2) and comprises a shared absorption area (52), an additional capacitor (C3) being formed upon the approach or contact of a person to the absorption area (52), whose effective capacitance experiences a detectable change that may be tapped at the second layer (31) of the second capacitor (C2).

Claim 32 (new): The facility (50) for recognizing people according to Claim 31, wherein the first layer (32) having the shared absorption area (52) is incorporated into a floor, wall, or ceiling covering or positioned thereon.

Claim 33 (new): The facility (50) for recognizing people according to Claim 31, wherein the recognition of a person opens or closes a door.

Claim 34 (new): The facility (50) for recognizing people according to one of Claim 32, wherein the shape and size of the first layer (32) having the shared absorption area (52) are tailored to the conditions.